Delaware offers a wide array of education and training institutions. The Delaware Economic Development Office utilizes the full range of these institutions to provide employment and training services to new and expanding businesses. Local school districts receive a high level of state financial support, and a high quality teaching staff and innovative programs have resulted in high performance by students in national scholastic competitions.

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### **QUALITY OF EDUCATION IS VERY HIGH:**

Delaware is committed to the mission to promote the highest quality of education for every student by providing visionary leadership and superior service. One of the most important functions of the Delaware school system is to produce graduates with outstanding skills and knowledge in the core academic subjects of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. These skills and knowledge provide students with the foundation to succeed in college and the workplace, and to be informed, engaged citizens.

Newsweek magazine's ranking of the best public high schools in the nation includes seven from **Delaware.** The Charter School of Wilmington tops the First State's contingent with a rank of 72. The others were Alexis I. du Pont, Cab Calloway School of the Arts, Brandywine, Dover, Concord, and Mount Pleasant.

#### **Financials**

- Delaware spent \$11,303 per pupil in 2004-2005.
- In Fiscal Year 2007, the state requested 33.7 percent of its operating budget for education in kindergarten through grade 12.
- Public schools received about 64.1 percent of their support from state funds in 2004-2005.

#### **Personnel Data**

- The typical teacher in Delaware public schools (2006-2007) is 40.6 years of age with 12.2 years of educational experience. The typical administrator is 46.9 years of age with 18.5 years of educational experience.
- The average pupil/teacher ratio for **regular** Delaware public schools (2006-2007) is 15.2. Fifty-three percent of public school teachers hold a master's degree or greater.

### **Delaware Student Testing Program (DSTP)**

Delaware students must meet world-class standards if they are to be competitive and successful in a global economy. To prepare our students for their future, our schools must support rigorous standards and each of our teachers must set high expectations. The results of the DSTP provide us with an understanding of how well we are preparing students that meet the many challenges that lie ahead.

Students in grades 2-10 are administered reading, writing, and mathematics tests. Science and social studies tests are administered to grades 4, 6, 8, and 11.

The Delaware Student Testing Program is designed to:

- Serve as a measure of progress toward the Delaware content standards;
- Ensure that students can apply their academic skills to realistic, everyday problems;
- Promote better instruction and curriculum by providing timely reports of students' strengths and weaknesses:
- Formally identify students that require extra instruction;
- Service as a primary indicator in the statewide accountability system and
- Help districts determine who should and should not be promoted from grade to grade based on assessment results.

## **QUALITY OF EDUCATION IS VERY HIGH: (cont'd)**

## **Nonpublic Schools**

• In addition to Delaware's outstanding public schools, there are also 863 private and parochial schools, including specialized schools for the physically or mentally handicapped. In 2004, approximately 28,000 students were enrolled in nonpublic elementary and secondary schools throughout the state.

## **Charter Schools**

Charter schools are authorized by <u>Del. C., Title 14, Chapter 5</u> which was enacted in 1995. The creation of the charter school legislation is intended to improve student learning; encourage the use of different and innovative or proven school environments and teaching and learning methods; provide parents and students with improved measures of school performance and greater opportunities in choosing public schools within and outside their school districts; and to provide for a well-educated community.

Based upon September 30, 2005 figures, there are 6,541 students in Delaware attending charter schools, which represents 5.4% of the total public school enrollment. There are currently 13 charter schools in operation in Delaware.

#### **Vocational-Technical Education**

Delaware has six vocational technical schools - <u>Polytech High School</u> (Kent County), <u>Sussex Technical High School</u> (Sussex County), <u>Delcastle Technical High School</u>, <u>Howard High School of Technology</u>, and <u>Paul Hodgson Vocational Technical High School</u> (New Castle County). These schools afford the unique opportunity to blend high-level academic concepts with technical skills through an integrated, applied curriculum.

More than two-thirds of Delaware's secondary students participate in some form of vocational-technical education in both regular comprehensive high schools and comprehensive vocational-technical high schools. Using data from the Delaware Department of Labor, vocational-technical education programs are initiated and adjusted to meet the economic development needs of the state. Delaware is one of the few states that provide related training for registered apprentices at no charge to the apprentice or the employer. An August 2000 Delaware Department of Labor analysis of this program found "that the state can expect a rate of return just over 100 percent annually in terms of increased state and local tax revenues for each person who moves from helper to journeyman status as a result of apprenticeship program spending." Participation in this program has grown 150 percent over the last four years and continues to grow. All high schools in Delaware's county vocational-technical school districts are required to integrate academic concepts into vocational curricula and vocational concepts into academic curricula.

## **POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS ABOUND:**

## **Colleges and Universities**

Delaware offers broad opportunities for <u>post-secondary education</u> through five colleges and three universities. More than 90 Associate and 140 Bachelor Degree programs are available in many fields, including agriculture, allied health, business, computer science, criminal justice, education, engineering, liberal arts, and nursing. Delaware institutions offer more than 90 programs leading to a master's degree, as well as doctoral degrees in a number of fields. Collectively, the publicly supported University of Delaware, Delaware State University and Delaware Technical & Community College, and the five independent institutions (Goldey-Beacom College, Wesley College, Widener University (Delaware Campus), Wilmington College, and Delaware College of Art and Design) provide quality education in Delaware.

In addition, the State has several programs to assist Delawareans pursuing first professional degrees not offered in Delaware. The Delaware Institute for Medical Education (DIMER) provides reserved seats for students at Jefferson Medical College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Doctors and other health care professionals who return to Delaware to practice in an underserved area may be eligible for the Delaware State Loan Repayment Program for Health Professionals. Delaware offers professional incentive programs at the graduate level for librarians, optometrists, and speech/language pathologists—loans through these programs are repaid in service to the State. And through the SREB Regional Contract Program, up to two Delaware residents at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine and up to two Delaware residents at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine are granted in-state tuition.

#### **Private Business and Trade Schools**

Private business and trade schools in Delaware greatly expand the post-secondary educational opportunities available in the state. Schools offer training in such areas as cosmetology, information technology, massage therapy, and health care technology. The Department of Education approves the schools on an annual basis.

### **Adult Continuing Education**

Service to employed adults seeking to enhance their job skills is provided by the continuing education divisions of most of the State's institutions of higher learning. Many offer weekend and evening study options. The University of Delaware provides one of the most comprehensive continuing education programs in the nation, with flexible part-time and avocational opportunities at many sites throughout Delaware. Undergraduate programs are offered by some out-of-state institutions at the Dover Air Force Base. In addition, the Higher Education Facility in Georgetown, Delaware provides classrooms and offices for several Delaware and out-of-state institutions.

#### STATE-SUPPORTED HIGHER EDUCATION:

## **University of Delaware**

The University of Delaware has grown from its founding as a small private academy in 1743 to a major university. As one of the oldest land-grant institutions, as well as a sea-grant, space-grant and urban-grant institution, Delaware offers an impressive collection of educational resources. Undergraduates may choose to major in any one or more of over 100 academic majors. The University's distinguished faculty includes internationally known scientists, authors and teachers, who are committed to continuing the University of Delaware's tradition in providing one of the highest quality undergraduate educations available.

The University enrolls over 16,000 undergraduates and nearly 3,000 graduate students. As a state-assisted, privately controlled institution, the University seeks to enroll students from diverse backgrounds and a wide variety of geographic regions. Currently, 60 percent of Newark campus undergraduates are nonresidents who represent nearly every state and several foreign countries. The University of Delaware is strongly committed to enrolling and retaining minority students.

Since 1921, the University has been accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Professional accreditation also is held in Accounting, Agricultural Engineering/Engineering Technology, Athletic Training, Business Administration, Chemistry, Clinical Psychology, Dietetics, Education, Engineering, Family and Community Services, Medical Technology, Music, Physical Therapy, Public Administration and Nursing.

The main campus of the University, situated in the northwest corner of the state in the town of Newark, offers a traditional small-town college atmosphere in a location that affords easy access to major cultural and entertainment centers in nearby metropolitan areas. The I-95 corridor is minutes from campus. The shore resorts of Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland and the recreational areas and ski slopes of the Pocono Mountains are also about two hours away.

#### **Delaware State University**

Founded in 1890 as the State College for Colored Students, DSU began as a land grant college for agriculture and mechanical arts. Over the last 115 years, it has evolved into a fully accredited, 400-acre, comprehensive university with a main campus and two satellite sites that encompass six colleges and a diverse population of undergraduate and advanced degree students.

Located in Dover, Delaware State University is a state-assisted comprehensive institution which offers 66 undergraduate degrees, 16 graduate degrees and two doctoral degrees which includes mathematics, natural and social sciences, education, airway sciences, visual and performing arts, management, accounting and finance, agriculture, natural resources, nursing, and many others.

The student population consists of 3,722 students who come from 28 states and 31 countries. There are 168 faculty members in 20 academic departments; 140 have doctorate degrees and 40 have reached the academic rank of full professor.

### STATE-SUPPORTED HIGHER EDUCATION:

## **Delaware Technical & Community College**

Delaware Technical & Community College is a multifaceted institution with four campus locations throughout Delaware. The College can be easily accessed by all Delaware residents with the Stanton/Wilmington Campus in New Castle County, the Terry Campus in Kent County and the Jack F. Owens Campus in Sussex County. The college and its campuses are fully accredited by the Commission on Higher Education, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, several curricula have earned program-based accreditation by various professional organizations. Several degree programs are offered, and the Associate in Applied Science degree is granted upon successful completion of specific curriculum requirements.

For over 30 years, the College has been providing education and training to the Delaware workforce. A broad spectrum of skills and information specialists join the Corporate and Community Programs Division to design and conduct job-specific programs for businesses. State and federal funds enable unemployed and underemployed citizens to enter specialized programs to receive job skills training or retraining. As employees reentering the labor market, employers gain employees equipped with current job knowledge and practical work experiences. The College is a statewide provider of many job training and job readiness programs.

A new approach to education and training is the College's distance learning technologies which combine instruction and technology to reach individuals who are not able to attend classes on campus. Online courses are available in addition to other technological delivery modes such as satellite up linking and downlinking, full motion video, filming of classes for distribution through videotape, audio conferencing and electronic mail. To accommodate the incorporation of technology into teaching, the College has established the Center for Educational Technology. In addition, Educational Technology Labs are being instituted at each campus to provide on-campus technology support for faculty members.

Associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in the Allied Health, Business, Engineering, and Public Service Technologies meet the modern-day demands of business and industry. Unique programs that reflect a close working relationship with business and industry include: biotechnology, dental hygiene, diagnostic medical sonography, EMT-paramedic, histotechnology, medical assistant, medical laboratory, nuclear medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, radiology, respiratory care, exercise science, accounting, agri-business, horticulture, poultry technology, computer information systems, business administration, banking, communications, construction management, culinary arts, customer service, food service management, legal assistant, office systems technologies, hotel-restaurantinstitutional management, management and marketing, architectural engineering, automotive technology, bioscience, chemistry, chemical process operator technology, veterinary technology, civil engineering, computer engineering, computer-aided engineering drafting, visual communication technology, fire protection, safety management, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, semiconductor process technology, industrial maintenance technology, electronics/electrical engineering, electromechanical engineering, environmental technology, refrigeration-heating-air conditioning, waste/wastewater, criminal justice, human services, early childhood education, mathematics secondary education, sign language interpreting, and educational technology.

### **OTHER DELAWARE COLLEGES:**

## **Wesley College**

Founded in 1873 as a preparatory school, Wesley College has a covenant relationship with the United Methodist Church. The College offers 30 bachelors, four associates, and master's degrees in areas of study including nursing, education, business administration and environmental science in a multi-denominational, multi-cultural campus setting. Wesley College and its athletic facilities are located on 50 acres in historic Dover.

Most of Wesley College's 2,400 students (1,400 traditional and 500 adult full-time) come from the Middle Atlantic region. The majority of full-time students enroll directly from high school, but the College does provide programs for nontraditional students. Wesley attracts students interested in a personal approach to learning, with a 17:1 student to faculty ratio.

### **Wilmington College**

Wilmington College is a private, non-sectarian school that offers both undergraduate and graduate-level degree programs in a variety of career areas. The College is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Beginning with a charter class of 194 students in 1968, it has grown to serve a student body of over 10,000 students.

The College's main campus is located near the City of Wilmington in New Castle, Delaware. Additional campus locations throughout the State of Delaware include the Wilmington Graduate Center, Dover, Dover Air Force Base, Georgetown, and our Rehoboth Beach College Information Center.

### **Goldey-Beacom College**

Goldey-Beacom College is a private, coeducational college offering bachelors and masters degrees in all areas of business. The college has a strong commitment as an institution of higher education devoted exclusively to business. Goldey-Beacom graduates have taken their place in business, industry, and government; distinguished alumni include four governors of the State of Delaware, corporate presidents, chief executive officers, and professionals at all levels of business.

Drawing on more than 100 years of excellence, and a reputation for supplying business leaders to the surrounding business community, GBC devotes its resources to serving its student population, investing in talented individuals, challenging academic programs, modern facilities, cutting edge technology, and extensive support services. In addition to receiving a quality education, students at GBC receive personalized attention and the highest quality customer service both inside and outside the classroom.

Goldey-Beacom is located in Wilmington, Delaware and is nationally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education.

## **OTHER DELAWARE COLLEGES (continued):**

# **Widener University**

Widener University is a private, metropolitan university that connects curricula to social issues through civil engagement. Dynamic teaching, active scholarship, personal attention, and experiential learning are key components of the Widener experience. Widener offers liberal arts and sciences and professional programs leading to associate's baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees.

Widener University School of Law is located on both the Wilmington and Harrisburg campuses. The Wilmington campus is home to approximately 1,100 students, and the Harrisburg campus has approximately 400 students. The law school offers concentrations in health law and corporate law. The Legal Education Institute, housed on the Wilmington campus, provides paralegal and court administration training.

The Widener University School of Law faculty has approved a general studies curriculum for all students. This required core curriculum consists of instruction in subjects which form a common core or understanding and shared experience, whatever specialty a graduate should follow after graduation. The law school offers many courses in addition to core curriculum. Every law student has an opportunity to choose elective credits.

The Delaware campus is located in Wilmington, Delaware which provides many opportunities for full-time and part-time legal employment as well as internships with government agencies and courts.

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